



The Laws and Regulation Governing Physical Therapist Students and Interns

Business and Professions Codes

2650.1. Physical Therapy Student

During the period of clinical practice referred to in Section 2650 or in any similar period of observation or related educational experience involving recipients of physical therapy, a person so engaged shall be identified only as a "physical therapy student," or as a "physical therapy intern" as authorized by the board in its regulations.

2650.2. Authorization for Performance of Physical Therapy Students

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent a regularly matriculated student undertaking a course of professional instruction in an approved physical therapist education program or a student enrolled in a program of supervised clinical training under the direction of an approved physical therapist education program pursuant to Section 2651, from performing physical therapy as a part of his or her course of study.

Title 16, California Code of Regulations

1398.37. Identification of Students and Interns.

- (a) When rendering physical therapy services as part of academic training, a physical therapy student shall only be identified as a "physical therapist student." A person who has completed the required academic coursework may be identified as a "physical therapist intern" when rendering physical therapy services. When rendering physical therapy services, the required identification shall be clearly visible and include his or her name and working title in at least 18-point type.
- (b) The "clinical instructor" or the "supervisor" shall be the physical therapist supervising the physical therapist student or intern while practicing physical therapy.
- (c) The supervising physical therapist shall provide on site supervision of the assigned patient care rendered by the physical therapist student or intern.
- (d) The physical therapist student or intern shall document each treatment in the patient record, along with his or her signature. The clinical instructor or supervising physical therapist shall countersign with his or her first initial and last name all entries in the patient's record on the same day as patient related tasks were provided by the physical therapist student or intern.

Note: Authority cited: Section 2615, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 2650.1 and 2650.2, Business and Professions Code.

History:

- (1.) New section filed 4-16-79, Register 79, No. 16.
- (2.) Amendment filed 6-29-83, Register 83, No. 27.
- (3.) Amendment of section heading, section and NOTE filed 12-23-2002, operative 1-22-2003, Register 2002, No. 52.